

ABAC Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2007

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Ted Packard, Ron Sender, and Christopher Tonkin. Scott Smith attended the meeting briefly (but then left for Town Meeting). Anka Sheaffer, Bobbie Mac, Kevin Davis, and Jeff Roth also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34.

*The April minutes were approved without amendment.

Update on proposed locations for new bike racks in town. We reviewed a list of 12 locations that have been suggested at past meetings. Jack would prefer that a rack be placed in front of Quebrada Bakery rather than the theater because there is more room. We assigned priorities to some of the locations.

Final planning for the annual BIKE-Arlington Tour, scheduled for Sunday, May 20. We will meet on Sunday May 20th behind the Jefferson-Cutter House at 9:30 a.m. Jack told us that the test ride went well and that he had asked that the police escort be on bicycles. They confirmed the appointment but couldn't promise about the bicycles.

Update on creating and installing new banners for the Minuteman Bikeway gateways in Arlington Center. Joey has told us that the DPW could probably handle both the fabrication and installation of the banners. Jack suggested that the color be bright blue for easy sighting. Stephan asked who will be doing the design. Jack answered that he could do it.

Brief updates on Bikeway and sidewalk snow removal issues. Jeff informed us that a committee has been formed to look at snow removal from the Bikeway. They just missed originating a warrant article for Town Meeting this year. They are presently doing research to determine the views of the abutters. They are also putting together a flier, explaining their point of view, which will be distributed in the neighborhoods around the path. They will also focus on snow removal on the sidewalks along Mass. Ave.

Jack reminded us that snow removal is already mandatory for owners to clear sidewalks along their frontage. Jack would prefer that the path not be sanded even if it is plowed. Ted mentioned that the bikeway ramps will also have to be plowed. The new committee has connections with the Council on Aging and the Disability Commission, which might help get some attention.

Update on bikeway cleanup in Arlington on Sunday, May 5. Ron told us that about 20 people showed up, and a lot of trash was collected.

Brief discussion on bikeway user counts and behavior at intersections. Scott told us that bikeway intersections are not high crash areas. He proposes we take counts of bikes, pedestrians, and cars at the bikeway intersections this summer to help us report to the selectmen on bike-path intersection safety.

Update of future project to reconstruct Mass. Ave. Scott told us that there is about \$300K now available from the State for the design of this project. The next level of design will begin this summer, including a new round of public input.

General discussion. Jack informed us that Les Masterson is leaving the Arlington Advocate; Jennifer Mann has already left. Bobbie told us that Quad Cycles is donating a bike rack to be placed a Fern's Country Store in Carlisle. He hinted that there is also the need for a porta-potty if anyone is inclined to donate the service.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52

*Denotes a vote was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller.